

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 11724 310635Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 IGA-02 /082 W

-----124683 310639Z /14

R 310540Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3544

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 11724

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, ASEAN, RP, TH, MY, SN, ID

SUBJECT: ASEAN: PROPOSAL FOR HIGH-LEVEL US DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION

INDUSTRY VISIT TO ASEAN COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 198443

1. WE WELCOME PROPOSAL FOR HIGH-LEVEL U.S. DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY VISIT TO INDONESIA AND OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES.

BEFORE ANY DECISION TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSAL, BELIEVE  
IT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AMONG ECONOMIC COUNSELORS AT MEETING  
IN MANILA IN ADVANCE OF SEPTEMBER 8-10 US-ASEAN CONFERENCE.

IF RESULT OF SUCH A DECISION IS POSITIVE, POSSIBILITY  
OF TRADE MISSION COULD BE MENTIONED INFORMALLY DURING  
CONFERENCE TO ASEAN MINISTERS AND PERHAPS DEVELOP  
SOME HIGH LEVEL INTEREST IN TRADE MISSION AMONG ASEAN  
MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

2. WE HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT SUBJECT MISSION,

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NOT LEAST OF WHICH IS THAT IT WOULD APPEAR TO COMPETE  
WITH EARLIER EMBASSY MANILA PROPOSAL FOR A U.S. INVESTMENT  
MISSION TO ASEAN COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, WITH  
RESPECT SOLELY TO INDONESIA, MAJOR PROJECTS, SUCH AS  
WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION TRADE  
MISSION, HAVE SLOWED APPRECIABLY IN AFTERMATH OF PERTAMINA  
FINANCIAL CRISIS AND CONSEQUENT GOI CONCERN OVER ITS

GROWING DEBT SERVICE BURDEN. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, STARTING TO APPEAR SOME INDICATIONS THAT SOME LONG-STALLED PROJECTS ARE AT LAST STARTING TO MOVE, IF ONLY SLOWLY. ADDITIONAL RESERVATION HAS TO DO WITH EXISTING PRESENCE IN INDONESIA OF SEVERAL LARGE U.S. ENGINEERING FIRMS, SUCH AS BECHTEL, FLOUR, DRAVO, KELLOGG-PULMAN, WILLIAMS BROS., WHO MAY SEE THEIR INTERESTS THREATENED BY HIGH-LEVEL TRADE MISSION GIVING AN EDGE TO SOME OF THEIR U.S. COMPETITORS WHO HAVE BEEN SLOWER OFF THE MARK IN RECOGNIZING LONGER-TERM POTENTIAL IN INDONESIA.

3. IF MISSION VISITS ASEAN COUNTRIES, OUR PREFERENCES RE TIMING WOULD BE LATTER PART OF NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER BECAUSE OF CONFLICT WITH SOLO TRADE EXHIBITION (DINAMIKA '77) IN JAKARTA EARLY NOVEMBER. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, DO ALL POSSIBLE TO MAKE MISSION VISIT TO INDONESIA SUCCESSFUL.

4. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED MANILA 13582 AND AGREE WITH VIEWS EXPRESSED PARAS 1 AND 3 AND IN PARTICULAR WITH DESIRABILITY OF INCLUDING IN TRADE MISSION A REPRESENTATIVE OF EXIMBANK.  
RIVES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 198443  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** ASEAN: PROPOSAL FOR HIGH-LEVEL US DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY VISIT TO ASEAN COUNTRIES  
**TAGS:** BENC, RP, TH, MY, SN, ID, ASEAN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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